debentures, increase in percentage of SLR investments in Government Securities, restrictions on interest rates on deposits offered by UCBs and investment of funds as deposit with other UCBs, etc.

Revenue Collection

1435. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the target set for mobilisation of resources through Direct taxes during the first half of the current financial year;

(b) whether the target has been achieved; and

(c) the efforts being made by Government to mobilise additional resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The target set for collection of Direct Taxes (excluding other taxes) during the first half of the current Financial Year was Rs. 34,635 crores.

(b) The Collection made during the period under reference was Rs. 29,605.31 crores. Thus, there is a slight shortfall in collections with reference to the target.

(c) The following steps have been taken by the Government to increase collection of Direct Taxes:

- Allocation of the Budget Target upto the Range level and closer monitoring of the collection position.
- Increased Scrutiny of both Limited and Comprehensive types so as to collect more Revenues in such cases as well as to create a deterrent effect for other Taxpayers.
- Greater emphasis on Surveys and Searches in suitable cases for unearthing of unaccounted Income and Asset as well as to create a higher Risk Perception with respect of tax evasion.
- Steps towards complete computerization so as to enable Widening of the Tax Base and linking of Financial Transactions.
- Completion of Restructuring of the Income Tax Department and creation of smaller jurisdictions and shorter Span of Control for more effective Tax-Administration.
- Better Taxpayers' Service for promoting Voluntary Compliance of Tax.